

CITIZENS FOR NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS

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2019 Fred C. Davison Distinguished Scientist Award Winner Announced

Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA) is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2019 Fred C. Davidson Distinguished Scientist Award is Dr. Dan Gabriel Cacuci.

This prestigious award was presented on October 16 at the Edward Teller Lecture in Aiken, South Carolina. CNTA sponsors the Teller Lecture as a public outreach, which is named for the famed nuclear pioneer who played a key role in advancing nuclear science during World War II.

Dr. Cacuci is the SmartState Endowed Chair Professor of Mechanical Engineering and the Director of the SmartState Center of Excellence in Nuclear Science and Energy at the University of South Carolina. He received his M.S. in Nuclear Engineering at Columbia University in 1973, his M.Phil. in Applied Physics and Nuclear Engineering at Columbia University in 1977, and his Ph.D. in Applied Physics, Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering from Columbia University in 1978. Dr. Cacuci's areas of scientific expertise include the analysis of large-scale physical/engineering systems; large-scale scientific computations; nuclear reactor physics, dynamics, and safety; and sensitivity analysis, data assimilation, and predictive uncertainty quantification for large-scale systems.

Dr. Cacuci is a prolific author and researcher and is widely recognized in his field. He has published over 240 peer-reviewed articles, written numerous books, edited the five-volume *Handbook of Nuclear Engineering*, and edited the "Nuclear Science and Engineering" journal since 1984. He has made over 700 invited lectures and presentations at leading universities, government institutions and laboratories, and industrial and private organizations, and has mentored and graduated more than 50 doctoral students in the United States and Europe.

Dr. Cacuci received the Alexander Humboldt Prize for Senior Scholars in Germany in 1990, the Ernest Orlando Lawrence award from the U.S. Department of Energy in 1998, the Glenn Seaborg Medal from the American Nuclear and European Nuclear Societies in 2000, and the Arthur Holly Compton award from the American Nuclear Society in 2011. He became a member of the European Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2006. He has managed several large research projects and centers, including Institute Director at the Nuclear Research Center Karlsruhe (1993-2004), Scientific Director at the Nuclear Energy Pole of the Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique (2005-2009), and General Coordinator for establishing a Sustainable Nuclear Fission Technology Platform with 22 European partner organizations (2006-2008).

"Professor Cacuci is a leader in the development of nuclear technology, pioneering applications to develop experimentally validated predictive models of nuclear facilities, radiation detection, and other nuclear national security applications," wrote Dr. David LaGrafte of the National Nuclear Security

Administration. “It is ground breaking and technical work such as Processor Cacuci’s that continues to advance science while demonstrating the technical rigor we strive to achieve at our Nation’s DOE and NNSA National Laboratories.”

“Professor Dan Cacuci’s accomplishments in the fields of nuclear engineering and applied physics span more than four decades and include academic and research positions in the USA and Europe,” said University of South Carolina President Harry Pastides.

“I regard Professor Cacuci as a cornerstone in efforts to advance the state of nuclear science education as well as supporting the advancement of both the domestic nuclear power industry and the federal operations at the Savannah River Site,” stated Dr. Hossein Haj-Hariri, Dean of the College of Engineering and Computing at USC.

The Distinguished Scientist Award is presented annually to recognize regional scientists and engineers who have made exceptional lifetime scientific achievements. The award is in honor of Dr. Fred C. Davison who was Chairman of CNTA’s Board of Directors from 1994 until his death in 2004.

Davison was President of the University of Georgia for 19 years where he encouraged math and science education and managed the doubling of graduate enrollment. Davison was also President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Science Center Foundation, President of the Georgia-Carolina Boy Scouts Council, an elder at Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church, and an active Rotarian.

CNTA is an Aiken-based charitable educational organization dedicated to providing factual information about nuclear topics and educating the public on nuclear issues. For further information, call CNTA at 803-649-3456 or e-mail at cnta@bellsouth.net.